A project has commenced for providing alternate media like Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) for some existing wireless links of Defence to release spectrum in the relevant frequency bands for mobile services.

(d) and (e) GSM cellular operators have been instructed to deploy various spectrum optimization techniques.

Increasing production of underground coal mines

†*331. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to give economic incentives to increase the production of underground coal mines in the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in order to give these incentives, there is a proposal to levy cess on production of surface coal mines; and

(d) if so, the comprehensive details of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited are aiming at increasing the coal production from underground mines by opening new mines with mass production technology and increased production from existing mines through mechanization wherever feasible.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Unclaimed passports found in Ghaziabad

†*332. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in May, 2007 in Ghaziabad district of Uttar Pradesh, more than 100 unclaimed passports were found scattered on the ground and more than 600 passports were found buried under the ground;

(b) whether his Ministry have conducted any inquiry into the entire matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of people arrested, so far in this case and the action taken against them?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.